

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 MMO-04 CPR-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SY-05 PA-02 /051 W

----- 023120

R 051947Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6978

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03776

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC

SUBJECT: CU/WE: VOLUNTARY VISITOR - MINISTER-PRESIDENT
GOPPEL

1. DR. ALFONS GOPPEL, MINISTER-PRESIDENT (GOVERNOR) OF BAVARIA AND MEMBER OF UPPER HOUSE OF FRG PARLIAMENT (BUNDES RAT) WILL VISIT MINNESOTA APRIL 11-15 AS OFFICIAL BICENTENNIAL GUEST OF GOVERNOR ANDERSON. APRIL 3-10 HE WILL BE IN WASHINGTON FOR PRIVATE STAY WITH HIS SON BUT REQUESTS THREE-DAY PROGRAM OF APPOINTMENTS AND VISITS APRIL 7-9. AMBASSADOR WRITING HIM A LETTER OF INVITATION EXTENDING OFFER OF FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE AND EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT APPROPRIATE COURTESIES, ESCORT/INTERPRETER FOR WASHINGTON PART OF TRIP, AND PROGRAM ARRANGEMENTS PER PARAGRAPH TWO BE PROVIDED. GERMAN EMBASSY INFORMED OF HIS TRIP AND SCHEDULE SHOULD BE COORDINATED WITH IT.

2. GOPPEL'S INTERESTS IN WASHINGTON ARE:

A) MEETING WITH OFFICIALS AT STATE TO DISCUSS EAST-WEST RELATIONS. IN VIEW HIS POSITION, EMBASSY SUGGESTS PROTOCOL APPOINTMENT WITH ASST. SECRETARY HARTMAN FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION WITH DIRECTOR EUR/WE AND OTHERS.

B) MEETING WITH DOD OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS PRESENCE

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OF U.S. TROOPS IN BAVARIA: TROOP-COMMUNITY RELATIONS,

ETC.

C) VISIT TO CONGRESS

D) OBSERVE ANY SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES
TAKING PLACE ON THESE DATES IN WASHINGTON.

E) VISITS TO MOUNT VERNON AND WILLIAMSBURG.

GOPPEL ALSO EXPRESSED WISH TO SEE TWO GENERALS NOW RE-
TIRED HE MET DURING THEIR TOUR OF DUTY IN GERMANY:
GEN. MICHAEL S. DAVISON, 2331 S. QUEEN ST., ARLINGTON,
VA. AND GEN. JAMES S. POLK, 4355 LOWELL ST. N.W.,
WASHINGTON.

3. GOPPEL WILL BE ACCCOMPANIED BY TWO OF HIS STAFF;
NAMES AND ETA WILL BE SENT ASAP. THEY WILL STAY WITH
SON MICHAEL GOPPEL AT 5404 TRENT ST., CHEVY CHASE, MD.
INVITATIONS TO SOCIAL EVENTS IF ANY SHOULD INCLUDE MR.
AND MRS. MICHAEL GOPPEL WHERE POSSIBLE.

4. GOPPEL'S OFFICE HAS INFORMED MUNICH AMCONGEN THAT HE
DOES NOT PLAN TO TAKE ALONG SECURITY ESCORT AND THERE-
FORE WISHES TO KNOW WHETHER DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE
APPROPRIATE PROTECTION DURING WASHINGTON STAY.

5. GOPPEL AND PARTY WILL FLY TO MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL ON
APRIL 10 FOR MINNESOTA PROGRAM APRIL 11-15 NEGOTIATED
DIRECTLY BETWEEN BAVARIA STATE CHANCELLERY AND GOVERNOR

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ANDERSON'S OFFICE. SUMMARY OF PROGRAM FYI: MEET WITH STATE AND CAPITAL CITY OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF STATE LEGISLATURE AND SUPREME COURT, ETC. FOR INSIGHT INTO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, HEALTH AND PUBLIC WELFARE POLICY, EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM INCLUDING COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS IN MINNESOTA. FOR LOOK AT GEOGRAPHIC, ETHNIC AND ECONOMIC LIFE OF STATE, HE WILL VISIT A FARM, VISIT ST. JOHN, FOUNDED BY BENEDICTINE MONKS FROM BAVARIA, AND VISIT NEW ULM AND OTHER COMMUNITIES WITH STRONG GERMAN ETHNIC TIES. HE IS BRINGING WITH HIM TO PRESENT TO STATE AN EXHIBIT ON PRESERVATIONS OF HISTORICAL MONUMENTS IN BAVARIA CONSISTING OF 23 PANELS AND TWO FILMS. ALL TEXTS IN ENGLISH.

6. GOPPEL BORN IN REGENSBURG, 10/1/05. STUDIED LAW AND POLITICAL SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH. BEGAN CAREER IN LAW AND POLITICS IN 1932 AS LAWYER IN REGENSBURG. ENTERED POLITICS IN 1952 AS TOWN COUNCILLOR AND MAYOR OF ASCHAFFENBURG; IN 1954 ELECTED MEMBER OF BAVARIA STATE PARLIAMENT; 1958 STATE MINISTER OF INTERIOR; SINCE 1962 MINISTER-PRESIDENT. HE IS MEMBER OF CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST UNION (CSU). HAS MADE SEVERAL VISITS TO U.S. INCLUDING ONE IN 1959 ON DEPARTMENT OF STATE INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANT.

HILLENBRAND

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